

“You Will Not Walk Alone!”

Walkathon hosted by the Community of Saint Dymas—“CSD” for Baltimore & Maryland Prison Ministries

Dear Friends in Jesus Christ

at recovery houses, churches, prisons, jails, missions, shelters and re-entry ministries:

If you’ve ever been in jail or prison; If you’re a recovering addict; If this has happened to someone you love; If you believe that Jesus Christ can restore and heal the lost, oppressed and forsaken; If you have heard Jesus say “Love your neighbor;” If Jesus has led you to visit those in prison or walk with those in recovery, because when you do you do it for him; **then join with us** on:

OCTOBER 20, 2007, 1pm to 3pm
CITY HALL / WAR MEMORIAL PLAZA
400 E. Fayette at Holliday St
Downtown Baltimore

And by your presence declare to all who hear:

“YOU WILL NOT WALK ALONE.”

Sometimes it takes a thief to reveal the true power of Jesus’ name (Luke 23:39-43). The Community of Saint Dymas, a Christian prison congregation sponsored by individuals, churches and synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to provide a ministry of Word and Sacrament within 5 of the state’s prisons, exhorts you to:

Celebrate a New Life in Christ!!

by attending this event. There will be one hour of prayers, music, and testimony, and then a second hour to walk our annual Walkathon, which will take us from the Plaza to the Div. of Correction’s Central Booking facility on Madison Avenue. The walk ends where we began (a City permit for this event is still pending).

This is being provided to you freely, to reach out to you and encourage you to keep walking for Jesus. We will have ten tables at the event for ministries to set out materials and information regarding your work for the Lord. We want to get to know your work for Christ! **Take note:** ex-felons can now vote in Maryland! A voter registration table will be there to register those who have fulfilled the obligations of their sentence.

Sponsor/Represent your favorite ministry!!!

You can come to the Walkathon and raise funds for either CSD or your own ministries. **Do this before the event**, as we cannot raise funds during the event. The center leaf includes a bulletin insert for your church, and a registration form is on the back of the newsletter. Contact our Office Manager Robert Mauck, to say you are coming or for more information at the numbers below.

Check in with us before the event, to make sure the City Permit for the event is approved. If the permit is not approved there will be an alternative site provided for the event.

Baltimore Office @
2nd English Lutheran Church: 410-233-7897
Frederick Office @
Evangelical Lutheran Church: 301-663-6361

Program for Walkathon

- 11am Set-up Begins
- 1pm Gathering/Registration of Walkers
 - Invocation and Prayer
 - Music by “All the Fixsens”
 - Speakers and Testimony
 - Main Speaker
- 2pm Start of Walk
- 3pm End of Walk/Closing Prayer

Walkers will use caution at street crossings and use pedestrian walks instead of streets. Stops along the way for scriptural readings and prayers will be made where there is sufficient room off-street for gathering and making short stops. Walkers will be registered by CSD and receive numbers like those in a race to wear on their shirt for identification.

God bless us to be a blessing to others!

See you on the 20th of October!

Rev. Bill Lundgren, Pastor

The Community of Saint Dymas

Saint Dymas Sunday

is coming to a Lutheran Church near you!

At this year’s Assembly of the Delaware Maryland Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA),

October 21, 2007

Was approved by resolution to be known and celebrated as Saint Dymas Sunday. The following information is provided to assist your congregation’s worship planning for this special Sunday.

Hymn Suggestions

WOV 687 ELW 401 Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading

WOV 712 ELW 513 Listen, God Is Calling

WOV 651 ELW 671 Shine Jesus Shine

LBW 230 ELW 517 Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

LBW 372 In Adam We Have All Been One

Prayers

Almighty God, by our baptism into the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, You turn us from the old life of sin, Grant that we who are reborn to new life in him may live in righteousness and holiness all our days, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

O Blessed Jesus, you ministered to all who came to you. Look with compassion upon all who through addiction have lost their health and freedom. Restore to them the assurance of your unfailing mercy; remove the fears that attack them; strengthen them in the work of their recovery; and to those who care for them, give patient understanding and persevering love, for your mercy’s sake.

Lord Jesus for our sake you were condemned as a criminal. Visit our jails and prisons with your pity and judgement. Remember all prisoners and bring the guilty to repentance and amendment

of life according to your will, and give them hope for their future. When any are held unjustly, bring them release; forgive us and teach us to seek you. Remember those working in these institutions; keep them humane and compassionate, and save them from becoming brutal or callous. And since what we do for those in prison, O Lord, we do for you, lead us to improve their lot. All this we ask for your mercy's sake.

Suggested thought from Matthew 6:21

For Jesus and his biblical authors, the heart is not the center of emotions, but it is the center of decision-making. So our decisions will always be determined by what we treasure; by what or who is most important to us. Martin Luther said that there really are no atheists since that in which you place your ultimate trust is your god.

In a world filled with fear and ruled by violence; it is easy to choose might and muscle as the most treasured possessions. When our streets are filled with guns, and nations either invade each other or threaten war; it is easy to choose might and muscle as the most treasured possessions. Where our true treasure is a non-violent crucified man of mercy, then our hearts will make decisions that promote compassion and peace and generosity.

Lord let my heart be open to the light of your kindness, that I may treasure you alone.

Special Offering: A special offering for the ministries of the Community of Saint Dysmas is sought and appreciated.

Our Mission and Vision Statements:

The Community of St. Dysmas proclaims repentance, acceptance, and forgiveness in Christ's Name.
(Adopted 07/08/07)

- * As a community of faith, we pray, fellowship together, and love one another.
- * As instruments of God's love, we offer hope to the distressed and compassion for those whose lives have been incarcerated.
- * As stewards of God's grace, we prepare God's people for a new life in Christ.